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# (12) United States Patent El-Faham et al.

### (54) FUNCTIONALIZED SILICA FOR THE

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SYNTHESIS OF METAL NANOPARTICLES

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See application file for complete search history.

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#### (57) ABSTRACT

The functionalized silica for the synthesis of metal nanoparticles includes a silica surface functionalized by a hydrazino-triazine derivative. A method of preparing the functionalized silica includes the steps of combining silica gel and a triazine derivative in a first organic solvent to form a mixture; heating the mixture for about two hours; isolating a white solid by filtration; washing the solid with the first organic solvent; suspending the white solid in a second organic solvent to form a suspension; adding hydrazine hydrate to the suspension while stirring; heating the suspension for about 3 hours to form the silica surface functionalized by a hydrazino-triazine derivative; and isolating the silica surface functionalized by a hydrazino-triazine derivative by filtration.

#### 12 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets